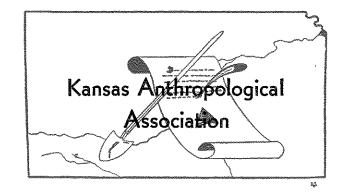
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**NEWSLETTER** 

Volume 14, Number 2

October, 1968

## K.A.A. FALL DIG, 1968

The 1968 Fall dig for the Kansas Anthropological Association was held October 11, 12, and 13 at Stockton and Hays, Kansas. The dig was originally scheduled to last three days at the Copper site near Stockton. However this site was finished early and the last day was spent working in a dump area associated with the site of old Fort Hays near Hays, Kansas. The weather was good throughout the three days and we had an excellent turnout of members and visitors. The Alton Chapter of the K.A.A. was the host chapter and they did an excellent job securing permission for the excavations and taking care of local arrangements. Particular thanks should go to R. D. Brent, Richard and Joan Carmicheal and Joanne Sanders. Special thanks should also go to Mr. James Copper of Stockton who farmed the land upon which we worked. Without Mr. Copper's cooperation this entire project would not have been possible.

The Copper site, 14R0301, came to the writer's attention in April of 1967. At that time I was shown several sites in the Stockton vicinity by Merton Van Eaton. The area was one in which Van Eaton had exposed some buried human skeletal material some years ago and had heard of reports of other persons also seeing skeletal material here. This particular place and adjacent terraces had yielded disk shell beads, chipped stone artifacts and a few pottery sherds for some time. The site lay on the nose of a prominent terrace bordering the right or south side of the south fork of the Solomn River valley. That location is a few miles south of Stockton, Kansas. When we visited the site we found shell beads, mussel shell and small fragments of human bone exposed on the surface. At this time the site was under cultivation and planted in wheat. The material from this location and the adjacent site areas was tentatively identified as belonging to the Keith Focus, Middle Woodland.

The site was selected for the 1968 fall dig because of its nearness to a K.A.A. chapter and there was a possibility that we could recover skeletal material here. Skeletal material in good condition and with good association as to its cultural identity is always important. Work at the site was begun around 10 a.m. on Friday, October 11. Random shovel testing into the top of the terrace and the front slope yielded little in the way of direct evidence for subsurface features. When Van Eaton arrived at the site he pointed out two areas in which he had once exposed skeletal material in the site. One was down on the slope of the terrace and the other up on the crest. Working along the front of the terrace we found scraps of human bone and some disk shell beads exposed within a limited area. Preliminary shovel testing revealed more material to be present below the cultivation zone.

A grid system of ten-foot squares laid out in this area with a north to south base line extending up to the crest of the terrace where the second area was reportedly located. The first day three ten-foot squares were opened, two on the slope of the hill and one on the crest. These excavations were opened to a depth of approximately one foot below the surface. The most outstanding features located during the first day were Feature 2, a complex of human bone, and Feature 4, a skull lacking the mandible, or lower jaw, of a child.

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The second day of working at the site saw eight more ten-foot squares opened and a series of long narrow trenches dug just through the cultivation zone. A large number of members were present on the second day and a lot of dirt was moved. Unfortunately it became apparent that we had found the major portion of the site the first morning. Except for random pieces of broken animal bone no significant materials were found at the crest of the hill. On the slope of the hill we continued to find scattered disk shell beads and fragments of human bone. It was obvious that cultivation and/or "potting" of the site had displaced a good deal of material.

With the exception of disk shell beads the artifact inventory from the dig consisted of one body sherd and a worked chert flake. The body sherd was coarse in texture with calcite tempering and had its exterior surface marked by cord-roughening. The sherd was thick and brown in color. Tentatively it was identified as Harlan cord-roughened ware which is very distinctive of the Keith Focus Woodland.

The most significant feature was F2, the main complex of human bone. The material looked to have been a bundle burial of adult remains. One tibia and fibula were inarticulation but the sections of the skull, mandible and other long bones were in mixed order.

By the middle of the second day's work at 14R0301 it became apparent that we had recovered the significant material at least in this particular spot. The large number of ten-foot squares which had been opened and trenching which had been carried out kept most of the members present busy that day but it was doubtful if more significant material could be collected on the third day. We therefore decided to shift the location of the dig (a frustrating decision because we knew some members would arrive the next day and probably miss us) to nearby Fort Hays at Hays. The Historical Society had been working on the fort site for a number of years and we knew of a dump area to the south of the fort proper which needed testing. This also would give the members a new type of site and experience with historic artifacts. We chose a portion of the dump which was being cut into by a gully and laid out two lines of five-foot squares and excavation was begun. A large amount of metal, glass and ceramic artifacts were recovered. Outstanding artifacts consisted of metal canteens, bottles, coins, buttons and bullets.

In conclusion I would say the fall dig was a success with one prehistoric Plains Woodland site being completely excavated and significant testing being carried out at a historic dump area associated with Fort Hays. All of the materials recovered from both sites went into the Historical Society collections and will be kept at our laboratory. The members present worked hard and it became apparent to me that some of them are becoming very capable diggers having worked on a variety of sites. It was unfortunate that we had to move the dig location for the third day and for those members who were unable to locate us at Hays we offer our apology.

Thomas A. Witty Topeka, Kansas

# Persons Attending The Fall K.A.A. Dig Stockton and Hays, Kansas October 11, 12, 13 1968

# MEMBERS PRESENT FRIDAY, October 11, 1968:

R. D. Brent
Bob Tichenor
Glenn Scott
Marion Steinmetz
Irene Holland
Tom Witty
Earl Monger
Iris Monger
Bob Tichenor
Estelle Parish
Glen Conn
Merton Van Eaton
Mrs. Van Eaton
Jody Saunders
Richard Carmichael

# MEMBERS PRESENT SATURDAY, October 12, 1968:

Tom Witty Georgia Rhoads Harold Reed Ruth Currie Duane Kusy John Rhine Parker Parish Earl Monger Estelle Parish Iris Monger Millard Schloemer Richard Carmichael Don Schloemer Joan Saunders Norman Horn Joan Carmichael Marie Horn Bob Button Glenn Conn Helen Gross Aleatha Connelly R. D. Brent

# VISITORS:

Harry Hancey Richard Oliva Albert McCue Mr. and Mrs. Murray Holloway

## VISITORS:

VISITORS:

Marge Reed

Fern Kusv

Kathy and Steve

Scott Midgorden

Clara Kennedy Marge Reed Kathy Reed Fern Kusy Mrs. Millard Schloemer Mrs. Don Schloemer Denton and Mark Cecil Breckenridge Jonathan Connelly Russell Peasley Lynn Ninemire Don Schescke Pete J. Bray Ben Wildrix Harold Wildrix Howard Fox Donna Fox Mr. & Mrs. Emery Hart

MEMBERS AND GUESTS PRESENT SATURDAY EVENING MEETING Earl Monger Tom Carmichael Marie Horn Richard Carmichael Tom Witty Norman Horn Duane Kusy Parker Parish Harold Reed Estelle Parish Iris Monger Georgia Rhoads Marge Reed-Kathy and Steve Chester Rhoads Fern Kusy R. D. Brent Ruth Currie Joan Saunders Irene Holland John Rhine Joan Carmichael Ruth Baxter

# MEMBERS PRESENT SUNDAY, October 13, 1968:

Parker Parish Duane Kusy Estelle Parish Tom Witty Earl Monger Orrie Graves Iris Monger Lois Graves Harold Reed John Rhine Norman Horn Jo Carmichael Marie Horn Joan Saunders Ruth Currie Irene Holland

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On behalf of the members and other officers I would like to thank Mr. Witty, our Editor, and his staff for the articles published in the Newsletter. John Rhine

#### BOOK REVIEW

Herculaneum

By Joseph Jay Deiss (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell, Company 1966. Bibliography, illustrations, index. xv, 174 pp. \$6.95).

Sometime ago I received a book from the Thomas Y. Crowell Co. for review. I found it interesting reading. It dealt with Herculaneum, a Roman city which was buried in August of A.D. 79 by some 60 feet of hot mud lava from the eruption of nearby Mt. Vesuvious. Herculaneum was a contemporary of nearby Pompeii and was buried in the same volcanic eruption. Unlike the former, Pompeii was buried under some 20 feet of red hot ash which burned and destroyed much of that city. Herculaneum being covered by mud was sealed as if in plastic with much of its architecture, works of art and artifacts of daily use left reasonably intact. The town of Herculaneum was apparently a Roman pleasure resort located on the Bay of Naples. Here were located villas of some of Rome's leading families. The shops sold luxury goods. It appears that most of the inhabitants of the city escaped the inundation of the town by the volcanic muds but everything else was left behind thus the site presents an unusually rich archeological inventory of material.

The town lay buried for some 1700 years until well diggers, in 1709, struck marble paving during their excavation. During the 1700's and early 1800's digging was carried out at the site by several individuals however the techniques employed were more for treasure hunting than for the scientific exploration of the town. One of the earlier techniques was random tunneling through the town for treasure items. Needless to say this did a great deal of damage to architectural features such as walls, floors and roofs. No attempt was made during this early work to pinpoint find spots or record any of the other type of data which we know now is so important to archeological research. The random "potting" of the site finally stopped in 1875. In 1927 modern archeological techniques were applied to the excavation of the site of Herculaneum by Amedeo Maiuri with the backing of the Italian government. Since then several square blocks of the ancient city have been completely excavated and now stand exposed.

Mr. Deiss relates how today it is still possible to see such things as the paintings, furniture, statuary, fountains, faucets and other details and objects of the daily Roman life in the town. Still in place in houses were bowls of food, fish nets, and fabrics.

Mr. Joseph Jay Deiss, the author, is a Texan and holds both B.A. and M.A. degrees from the University of Texas. He has written books on both medieval and classical themes dealing with Italian history. His books have been published in 15 European countries and he is a contributor of feature articles to leading literary monthlies and national magazines.

The subject of the book is admittedly a long way from Kansas archeology however it is presented in a very interesting and easily readable form and does deal with some very fancy archeology. The major portion of the work concerns classical Rome and a historical presentation of the town as has been ាល់ក្រស់ (Ligave) ស្គ្រប់ ប្រែប្រាស់ និងប្រាស់ ប្រែក្រស់ ប្រទេសប្រាក់ នេះបានក្រស់ អស់ស្គាល់ ប្រធិន្តិសម្រេច ប្ ក្រស់ (Ligave) ស្គ្រប់ ប្រធិន្តិសេខ ប្រទេសប្រាក់ ប្រធិន្តិស្ថា ប្រធិន្តិសុខបានក្រស់ ប្រធិន្តិសុខបានប្រជាពិធី ប ក្រសួងប្រជាពិ

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reconstructed in recent years. Little is presented dealing with archeological techniques and methods in exposing the buried remains. I found the book very fascinating and enjoyable reading and would recommend it to those who are interested in that particular historical period.

Thomas A. Witty Topeka, Kansas

#### NEW BOOK

The Oklahoma Anthropological Society has just released Special Bulletin No. 3, <u>Guide to the Identification of Certain American Indian Projectile Points</u> by Gregory Perino. This book is the third in a series begun several years ago by the Oklahoma Society and is presented in the same style. Those of you who have found the first two publications useful should add this one to your library. Some 51 new point types with illustrations and descriptions are included in this publication. This book may be ordered for \$4.00 from the Oklahoma Anthropological Society in care of Department of Anthropology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma 63069.

# NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

You've probably noticed the Newsletter is running a little behind. The number one reason is that we've not received any news or articles from you the membership. In over a year only three short articles other than chapter meeting reports have been sent in. How about some support?

# ALTON CHAPTER OCTOBER MEETING

About two hundred people attended our Alton Chapter lecture given by Mr. Al Look of Grand Junction, Colo. Mr. Look is a nationally known author, lecturer and educator in the fields of Archeology, Paleontology and Geology; as well as Journalism and Retail Advertising. His accomplishments in the field of Archeology include:

- 1. Discoverey of a new species of an ancient mammal (<u>Sparactolambda Looki</u>) which lived 50 million years ago. This specimen is now in the Chicago Museum of Natural History.
- 2. Discovery of two prehistoric human cultures named the Turner Look site (dated 500 A.D.), and the Taylor Look site (dated 4000 B.C.).
  - 3. Lectured in most of the Universities in the U.S.
- 4. Author of nine books on Archeology, Paleontology and Geology. His best known books are "In My Back Yard", and "1,000 Million Years on the Colorado Plateau."
- 5. Recently returned from Egypt, the Holy Land, and the Sudan as an observer of archeological excavations.

His program at Stockton consisted of color slides of Indian burials, unusual arrow points, complete dinossaur skeleton excavations, and various sites he helped dig in the Western States. He also showed slides of the Lake Powell area in the Canyonlands of Utah.

Mr. Look gave a very interesting and entertaining program which we all enjoyed.

Joanne Sanders Alton Chapter Stockton, Kansas All the second of the same and the manager of the first of the same of the same of the same of the same of the who about your record of the contract of the god week to the first that a specifical Contraction of a significant of the present of the contraction of the section of the contraction of the cont The state of the s

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### NINNESCAH CHAPTER OCTOBER MEETING

The Ninnescah Chapter of the K.A.A. met in the Western Savings Hospitality Room in Pratt on October 5, at 7:30 p.m. The members discussed the county fair exhibit and decided to wait until the next meeting to make a decision as to whether or not to have one.

George Valyer reported on an article he had read in the paper about two frames of artifacts which were stolen in Oklahoma. He suggested we be on the lookout for anyone trying to sell such material.

Our main program for the meeting was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Watets and their son. They operate the Waters Rock Shop. The Waters brought a display of rocks and told us about where they were found. A number of these were found right here in Kansas. A discussion followed their presentation.

Refreshments were served by Mr. and Mrs. Dick Sangster after the program.

Lois Graves Secretary Pratt, Kansas